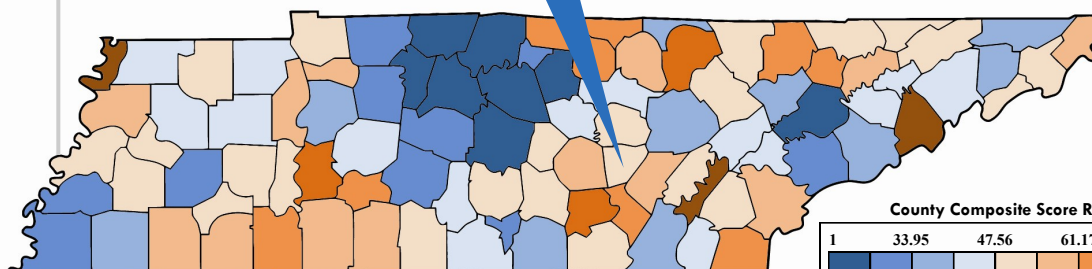


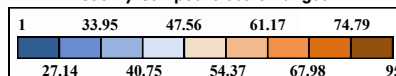
The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

SNAPSHOT: VAN BUREN COUNTY

2012



County Composite Score Ranges



Ranges defined as 0.5 standard deviations from the mean score of 47.56.

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Population (2010): **5,548**Pop. Density: **20/square mile**Seat of Government: **Spencer**Largest City: **Spencer**

COUNTY	RANK	INDICATOR SCORES & RANKINGS	DATA	RANK
Scott	49	Employment and Earnings Composite	39.20	29 ▲
Weakley	50	Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females*	\$24,940	84 ▼
Lauderdale	51	Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Male Earnings)	81.61%	19 ▼
Chester	52	Female Labor Force Participation Rate (Ages 20-64)	62.9%	66 ▼
Hawkins	53	Female Unemployment Rate (Ages 20-64)	7.0%	23 ▲
Henderson	53	Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	49.4%	4 ▲
Rhea	55	Economic Autonomy Composite	64.25	81 ▼
Unicoi	56	Women-owned Businesses Percent of Total	23.7%	46 ▲
Claiborne	57	Percent of Females with 4-Year Degree or More (Age 25+)	10.7%	70 ▲
Van Buren	58	Percent of Females with High School Diploma or Equivalent (Age 25+)	78.4%	48 ▲
Bedford	59	Female High School Dropout Rate	0.87%	89 ▼
Carter	60	Percent of Women Uninsured (65 and under)	17.5%	81 ▼
Stewart	61	Percent of Females Below Poverty Level	28.8%	88 ▼
Cannon	62	Percent of Female-Headed Households with Children in Poverty*	44.6%	43 ▲
Coffee	63	Rate of Pregnancy for Girls Age 15-19 per 1000*	34	49 ▲
Crockett	64	County Overview: Van Buren slipped one spot in overall rankings, due to sluggish wages and workforce participation as well as growing populations of uninsured women and women in poverty. Single mothers in Van Buren have also become much more likely to live in poverty, at a rate of 44.6 percent, and the county's teenage girls were more likely than most to drop out of high school during the 2011-12 school year. In contrast, women in the county did not see a rise in unemployment between 2000 and 2010, and they are now more likely to be business owners and managers. Additionally, local women are earning an increasing number of degrees and diplomas.		
Haywood	65			
Marion	66			
Decatur	67			

Down from 57th

Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

* The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

** The 2005 County by County figures were based on a sample of girls age 10-19, whereas the 2012 report reflects the population of girls age 15-19.

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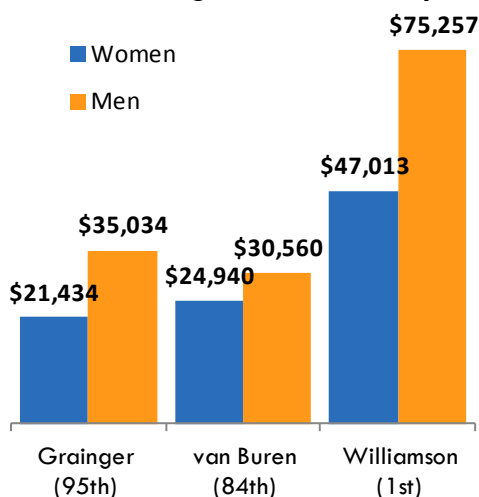
‡ Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.

The Status of Women in: Van Buren County

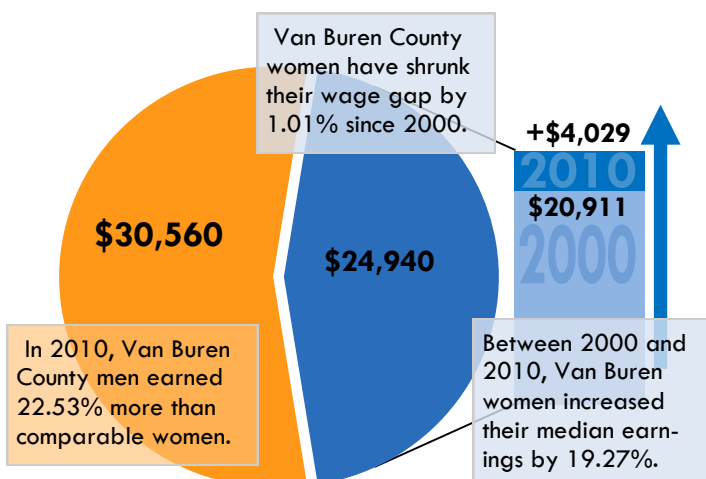
▼ Earnings

Van Buren County women added a meager \$4,029, or 19.27 percent, to their median income between 2000 and 2010, dropping in this indicator's rank from 53rd to 84th and trailing inflation estimates during that period by nearly seven percent. Men in the county fared even worse during this period, earning just 17.8 percent more in 2010.

Median Earnings: Counties Compared



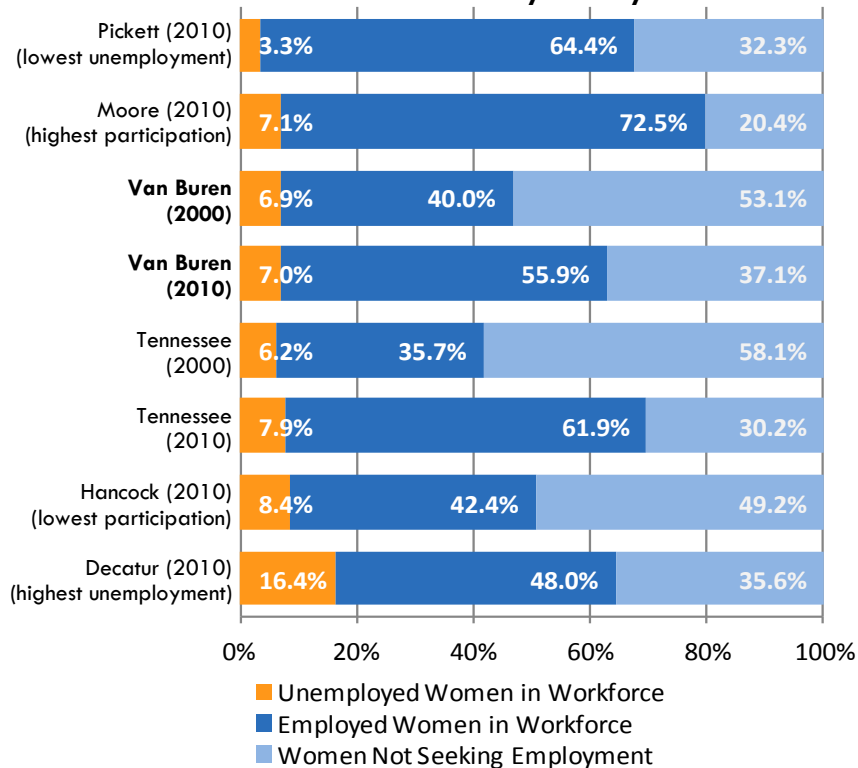
Median Earnings and the Wage Gap, 2000-2010



Following slightly greater wage gains, Van Buren County women chipped away at the income disparity between local men and women, shortening it by roughly one percent. Though improved, this decrease was modest and resulted in Van Buren slipping from 2nd in the state to 19th, in this indicator. Still well-ranked, Van Buren women earned 81.61 percent of what local men made in 2010. Again, while this is an improvement, it still corresponds to an annual shortfall of \$5,620.

▲ Employment

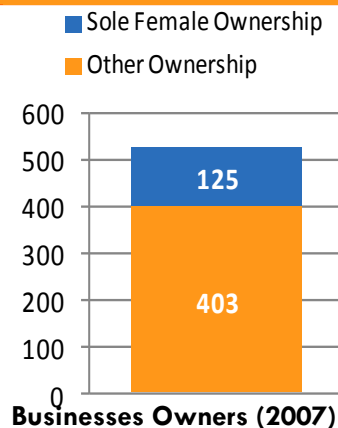
Workforce Access for Women By County and Year



Women in Van Buren County participate in the workforce at a moderate rate of 62.9 percent (ranked 66th). Growth in this category has been slower in Van Buren than in many counties, however, resulting in a drop from 9th place in 2000. As of 2010, local women were roughly seven percent less likely to be involved in the workforce than women statewide, and were 7.9 percent less likely than men in Van Buren County. Women with children under six, were even less likely to work, at a rate of 51.4 percent.

Local women fared relatively well regarding unemployment between 2000 and 2010. With essentially no increase in the rate since 2000, seven percent of local women were jobless in 2010. This was roughly one percent lower than the statewide rate for women as well as the local rate for men (8.2 percent). Women with young children were much more likely to be unemployed and searching, at a rate of 21.1 percent.

The Status of Women in: Van Buren County



Women in Van Buren were more than twice as likely to fill a management position in 2010 as they were in 2000, and, in fact, filled nearly half of the positions available. At 49.4 percent, this was the 4th highest rate in the state; a dramatic improvement from 92nd at the beginning of the decade. The rate was also more than 13 percent higher than the statewide rate in 2010.

Too little data was available to rank Van Buren women in business ownership in 2000, but they were estimated to own 23.7 percent of all local firms in 2007, ranking 46th in the state.

Women At Work

Business Management

The proportion of managerial positions filled by women in Van Buren increased from 20.8% to 49.4% between 2000 and 2010.

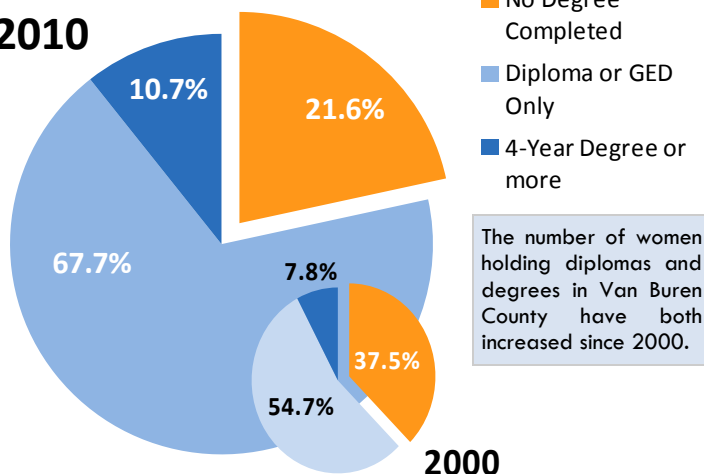
Business Ownership

The percentage of businesses in Van Buren County that were owned by women was estimated to reach 23.7 percent in 2007.

▲ Education

Educational Attainment Above Age 25

2010



Academic attainment has generally improved for Van Buren County women since the year 2000.

The proportion of women holding four year degrees has increased by 2.9 percent to include more than one in ten women in Van Buren, and has caused the county to improve from 79th to 70th statewide.

Nearly 16 percent more women now hold diplomas in the county as well, resulting in a significant increase in this indicator's rankings, from 85th to 48th.

The only detracting figure in this group, dropout rates in Van Buren included 0.87 percent of teenage girls during the 2011-12 school year, which compared unfavorably to the state rate of 0.61 percent and fell in county rankings, from 8th to 89th.

▼ Living

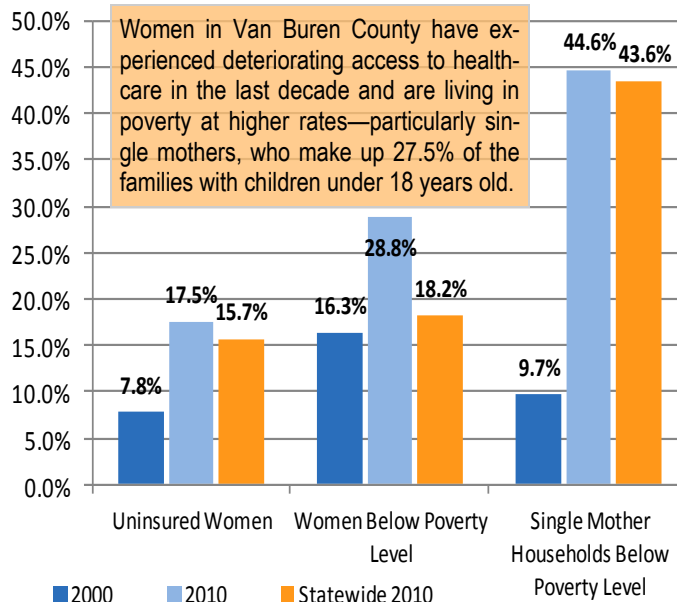
Women in Van Buren County saw very significant decreases in living standards and healthcare access between 2000 and 2010.

As of 2010, a much higher percentage of women in the county lived in poverty than was found in statewide estimates, and the rate had nearly doubled since 2000. At 28.8 percent, Van Buren ranked 88th in this indicator (down from 56th).

Single mothers in the county fared even worse and were more than four times as likely to live in poverty as they were in 2000. At 44.6 percent, they were also one percent more likely to live in poverty than mothers statewide, and were more than twice as likely as the average woman in the state.

Similar hardship is observed when considering women's access to affordable healthcare. In 2010, the number of uninsured women reached 17.5 percent—up from 7.8 percent—and local women were 1.8 percent less likely to be insured than women statewide. Van Buren dropped from 43rd to 81st in this category.

Health and Poverty Indicators for Women: Van Buren County, 2000-2010



About the Council and this Report

The **Status of Women in Tennessee Counties** report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of management occupations held by women.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of women with any kind of health insurance, percentage of women living in poverty and percentage of single female-headed households living in poverty, the female high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

Research & Authorship by:

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Visit the Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES	
Employment and Earnings	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics' *
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as Percent of Male Earnings)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics'
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population, 16 year and older'
Economic Autonomy	
Women-Owned Businesses Percent of Total	U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners 'Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race...' † ‡
Percent of Females with 4-Yr Degree or More (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Percent of Females with High School Diploma (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Female High School Dropout Rate	Tennessee Department of Education, 2011-2012 School Year
Percent of Women Uninsured (65 or under)	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
Percent of Women Below Poverty Level	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months'
Percent of Female-headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families' *
Rate of Pregnancy for Girls 15-19 (per 1000)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Fertility' *

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